



Oakland Schools

2100 Pontiac Lake Road, Waterford, Michigan 48328-2735 • Phone (810) 858-2121 • Fax (810) 858-1881

SUNSHINE PERIOD

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

April 14, 1997

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am the superintendent of Oakland Schools, a regional education service agency which serves 28 public school districts and 186,759 students in Oakland County, Michigan. One of the major issues among school superintendents, school boards and other educators in Oakland County and throughout Michigan is that of affordable access to our nation's information infrastructure.

In Oakland County we would continue our work as a regional consortium to bring information access to approximately 10,000 classrooms. To accomplish our goal, we need reduced rates for dialtone and high speed data lines but more importantly, we need affordable means of on-premise equipment and networking for all of our school buildings.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service to schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

James Redmond, Ph.D.
Superintendent

MAY 6 1997

JAMES

APR 21 2 46 PM '97

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Mason-Lake Intermediate School District

SUNSHINE PERIOD

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

An Educational Service District

April 15, 1997

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket NO. 96045

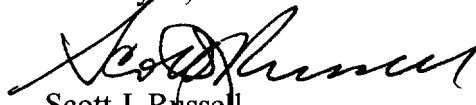
Dear Commissioner Quello:

As Superintendent of the Mason-Lake Intermediate School District and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year in E-Rate discounts will address the needs of all our schools and bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

We took the leadership along with West Shore Community College in forming an educational partnership encompassing all the educational agencies in a three county area. The partnership facilitates cost effective educational programming and provides affordable access to technology. However, we have been unable financially to make the kinds of connectivity throughout the partnership area that would bring this kind of technology and its educational opportunities to all districts' students. Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools. This plan will greatly enhance our ability to bridge this vital gap in providing service to all students.

Thank you,



Scott J. Russell
Superintendent of Schools

Copy to: The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman

Tracie T. McIntyre
19 Hanging Moss Road
Savannah, Georgia 31410

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

APR 21 2 40 PM '97

April 16, 1997

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communication Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room# 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

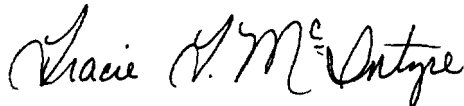
I am a parent from *Blessed Sacrament* school diocese and would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly into the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital to this process. This plan is also essential in preparing our students for Workforce 2000.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's Discount plan for universal services to schools.

Thank you.

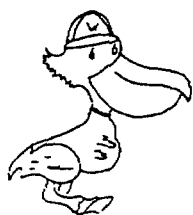
Sincerely,



Tracie T. McIntyre
Parent

MAY 6 1997

SUNSHINE PERIOD



WOODLAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1620 LIVINGSTON STREET • MANDEVILLE, LA 70448

MARIAN C. ARROWSMITH, PRINCIPAL
JEAN KRIEGER, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

SUNSHINE PERIOD



April 8, 1997

Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am a teacher from Woodlake Elementary School in St. Tammany Parish, Mandeville, Louisiana and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools and poorest school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dianne C. Hall

MAY 6 1997
JANET
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DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

2525 Third Avenue South
Escanaba, Michigan 49829-1298
Phone: (906) 786-9300
FAX: (906) 786-9318

April 15, 1997

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

Crippled by limited staff, geographic isolation, declining enrollment, and tight budgets, school districts in the southern, central Upper Peninsula of Michigan found it impossible to offer courses that are considered standard for their cosmopolitan counterparts. To address this inequity the Delta-Schoolcraft Intermediate School District formed a "Technology and Education Strategic Task Force." This group, composed of over fifty leaders from business, education, medical and public agencies, developed a strategic plan for our area. Strong, local commitment for building a distance learning network was supported financially through grant funds from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Commerce Department. This network enhanced the K-12 curriculum and improved the skills of students and workers. It provides residents with high quality educational experiences that promote economic growth and provides our communities with a 21st century competitive edge.

Yet, an inequity still exists among our school districts. There is great disparity regarding available technology among the end user sites. Many of the 40 schools located in Delta and Schoolcraft county do not have the internal connections necessary to access our wide area distance learning network. Discounts provided by the Universal Service Fund would help address this inequity issue as well as assist us with ongoing telecommunications charges.

In the Upper Peninsula of Michigan we are committed to providing our students with the technology necessary to be competitive in the global marketplace. Universal Service Funds will assist us in financing the technical aspects of the system, without draining limited school funds. School dollars can then be spent developing and implementing a technology-rich curriculum.

I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank-you.

Sincerely,

Diane Maltby
Technology Coordinator



NORTH ALLEGHENY SCHOOLS

Lawrence E. Bozzomo, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
200 Hillvue Lane
Pittsburgh, PA 15237-5391

(412) 366-2100

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

APR 21 2 57 PM '97

MAY 6 1997

JAMES

SUNSHINE PERIOD

April 17, 1997

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W. Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

On May 8, 1997 when you vote on the FCC Federal State Joint Boards recommendation to provide significant discounts for all telecommunications services including connections within each classroom, you will have the opportunity to guarantee that all students have an equal opportunity to benefit from our nation's technological advancements. This will prove to be a major step in the efforts to prepare students for their future in which 60% of the jobs will require computer skills.

As a school superintendent, I can assure you that the proposed discounts would provide a major thrust to our efforts to integrate technology into the curriculum. We are committed to providing our students with the computer skills that business demands and that our work force will need to maintain our competitiveness in a global economy.

I encourage you to support the plan to provide discounts to schools for all telecommunications services including internal connections. This action will open the door of opportunity for every student in our country and help to prepare our work force of the future.

Sincerely,

Lawrence E. Bozzomo, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

LEB/caz

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

SUNSHINE PERIOD

IDABEL MIDDLE SCHOOL

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL

100 N. E. AVE. D
IDABEL, OKLAHOMA

(405) 286-6558

April 28, 1997

MAY 5 4 42 PM '97

JAMES H. QUELLO

MAY 6 1997

The Honorable James H. Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

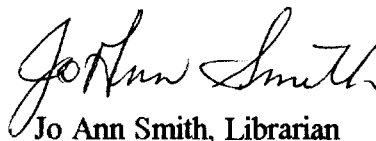
Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am the librarian at Idabel Middle School, and I would like to thank you for your help in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access information via the Information Superhighway. Idabel is a small, poor, isolated community, miles away from any major university. We are hoping to be able to access the Internet the coming school year of 1997-98 if the plan that guarantees poor schools a discount for telecommunication services is passed. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. We especially need this to help access information for our science fair and prepare the students for the workforce of tomorrow.

Due to a real financial crises in our school, our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I know from talking to our school treasurer that most schools in Oklahoma are in the same boat. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,


Jo Ann Smith, Librarian

SUNSHINE PERIOD

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

96-45

The School District of Haverford Township
CHATHAM PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

100 Allston Road • Havertown, PA 19083 • 610-853-5910.

April 29, 1997

The Honorable James Quello
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED
MAY 6 1997

MAY 5 4 40 PM '97

Dear Commissioner Quello,

As an elementary principal in the School District of Haverford Township, I would like to thank you for your support and dedication to education that will ensure Internet connection to every school student in Pennsylvania. This means all schools, including our own, along with the libraries in our communities, will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan guarantees that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet. With that connection, each student will be provided with distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 million a year will address the needs of our schools and, more importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. The inclusion of internal classroom connections at a discount is vital. The plan is essential to prepare students for tomorrow's work force.

Passage of this Act will allow our computer use to connect our students to the world, not only technologically, but personally. We all know thinking globally will be important for the future of our state and our country. Connecting to the world through computers will help our students learn and understand issues on a world-wide basis. Being able to connect with our county library system will also give us access to additional learning materials quickly and easily. Our children's future and the future of every child in Pennsylvania will depend on this program.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Sincerely,

Dan Marsella

Daniel Marsella

SUNSHINE PERIOD

96-45

DOCKET FILE COPY OF ORIGINAL

The School District of Haverford Township
LYNNEWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1400 Lawrence Road • Havertown, PA 19083 • 610-853-5930.

April 29, 1997

The Honorable James Quello
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

MAY 6 1997

APR 30 4 11 PM '97

Dear Commissioner Quello,

As an elementary principal in the School District of Haverford Township, I would like to thank you for your support and dedication to education that will ensure Internet connection to every school student in Pennsylvania. This means all schools, including our own, along with the libraries in our communities, will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan guarantees that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet. With that connection, each student will be provided with distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 million a year will address the needs of our schools and, more importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. The inclusion of internal classroom connections at a discount is vital. The plan is essential to prepare students for tomorrow's work force.

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Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Sincerely,



Edward Pratt

46-45

SUNSHINE PERIOD

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

The School District of Haverford Township
OAKMONT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

50 South Eagle Road • Havertown, PA 19083 • 610-853-5940.

April 29, 1997

The Honorable James Quello
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

MAY 6 1997

JAMES

MAY 5 4 40 PM '97

Dear Commissioner Quello,

As an elementary principal in the School District of Haverford Township, I would like to thank you for your support and dedication to education that will ensure Internet connection to every school student in Pennsylvania. This means all schools, including our own, along with the libraries in our communities, will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

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Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Sincerely,

Audrone Meskauskas

Dr. Audrone Meskauskas

The School District of Haverford Township
MANOA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

101 South Manoa Road • Havertown, PA 19083 • 610-853-5940.

April 29, 1997

The Honorable James Quello
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Quello,

As an elementary principal in the School District of Haverford Township, I would like to thank you for your support and dedication to education that will ensure Internet connection to every school student in Pennsylvania. This means all schools, including our own, along with the libraries in our communities, will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan guarantees that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet. With that connection, each student will be provided with distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 million a year will address the needs of our schools and, more importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. The inclusion of internal classroom connections at a discount is vital. The plan is essential to prepare students for tomorrow's work force.

Passage of this Act will allow our computer use to connect our students to the world, not only technologically, but personally. We all know thinking globally will be important for the future of our state and our country. Connecting to the world through computers will help our students learn and understand issues on a world-wide basis. Being able to connect with our county library system will also give us access to additional learning materials quickly and easily. Our children's future and the future of every child in Pennsylvania will depend on this program.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Sincerely,

Michael Walker

Dr. Michael Walker

96-45

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

SUNSHINE PERIOD

The School District of Haverford Township
HAVERFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL

1800 Darby Road • Havertown, PA 19083 • 610-853-5925.

April 29, 1997

The Honorable James Quello
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

MAY 6 1997

MAY 3 4 01 PM '97

Dear Commissioner Quello,

As the middle school principal in the School District of Haverford Township, I would like to thank you for your support and dedication to education that will ensure Internet connection to every school student in Pennsylvania. This means all schools, including our own, along with the libraries in our communities, will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan guarantees that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet. With that connection, each student will be provided with distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 million a year will address the needs of our schools and, more importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. The inclusion of internal classroom connections at a discount is vital. The plan is essential to prepare students for tomorrow's work force.

Passage of this Act will allow our computer use to connect our students to the world, not only technologically, but personally. We all know thinking globally will be important for the future of our state and our country. Connecting to the world through computers will help our students learn and understand issues on a world-wide basis. Being able to connect with our county library system will also give us access to additional learning materials quickly and easily. Our children's future and the future of every child in Pennsylvania will depend on this program.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Sincerely,

Michael Bianco

Michael Bianco

96-45

SUNSHINE PERIOD

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

The School District of Haverford Township
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

1801 Darby Road • Havertown, PA 19083 • 610-853-5909.

April 29, 1997

The Honorable James Quello
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

MAY 6 1997

MAY 5 4 42 PM '97

Dear Commissioner Quello,

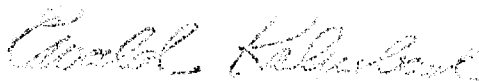
As the Superintendent of Schools in the School District of Haverford Township, I would like to thank you for your support and dedication to education that will ensure Internet connection to every school student in Pennsylvania. This means all schools, including our own, along with the libraries in our communities, will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan guarantees that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet. With that connection, each student will be provided with distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 million a year will address the needs of our schools and, more importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. The inclusion of internal classroom connections at a discount is vital. The plan is essential to prepare students for tomorrow's work force.

Passage of this Act will allow our computer use to connect our students to the world, not only technologically, but personally. We all know thinking globally will be important for the future of our state and our country. Connecting to the world through computers will help our students learn and understand issues on a world-wide basis. Being able to connect with our county library system will also give us access to additional learning materials quickly and easily. Our children's future and the future of every child in Pennsylvania will depend on this program.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Sincerely,



Ewald Kalmbach

96-45

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

SUNSHINE PERIOD

The School District of Haverford Township
COOPERTOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

800 Coopertown Road • Bryn Mawr, PA 19010 • MAY 8 1997

MAY 5 3 44 PM '97

April 29, 1997

The Honorable James Quello
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

MAY 6 1997

Dear Commissioner Quello,

As an elementary principal in the School District of Haverford Township, I would like to thank you for your support and dedication to education that will ensure Internet connection to every school student in Pennsylvania. This means all schools, including our own, along with the libraries in our communities, will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan guarantees that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet. With that connection, each student will be provided with distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 million a year will address the needs of our schools and, more importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. The inclusion of internal classroom connections at a discount is vital. The plan is essential to prepare students for tomorrow's work force.

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Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Sincerely,



Carol Restifo



**The
Calhoun
School**

**A Century
of Excellence**

1896-1996

Elementary, Middle
and Upper Schools
433 West End Avenue
New York, NY 10024
Tel 212 877-1700
Fax 212 877-2450

Lower School
160 West 74th Street
New York, NY 10023
Tel 212 721-0990
Fax 212 721-2012

14 April 1997

The Honorable James Quello
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am the Technology Coordinator of the Calhoun School, and I would like to thank you for your work with the Federal Communications Commission. I am concerned, however, that the Telecommunications Act may not continue to include the proposed education rate, which would provide affordable access to the Internet and the World Wide Web for all schools and libraries.

Today's technology can provide rich resources for students. Unfortunately, it can also serve to widen the gap between the "haves" and the "have nots." It is imperative that we, as educators and policy makers, do not further contribute to this bifurcation. The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The discount will address the needs of all schools, and the inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn.

Our students - those at Calhoun, and at schools throughout New York City - need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you and the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Debra A. Reiner
Technology Coordinator
The Calhoun School

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RECEIVED

APR 17 10 23 AM '97

JAMES QUELLO

MAY 6 1997

SUNSHINE PERIOD

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

WILLARD LIBRARY

7 WEST VAN BUREN STREET • BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN 49017 • 616/968-8166

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Rm 844
Washington DC 20554

MAY 6 1997

JAMES H. QUELLO

APR 18 10 06 AM '97

REC'D

April 14, 1997

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am the Director of Willard Public Library in Battle Creek, Michigan, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

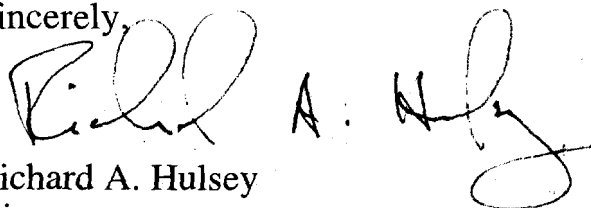
The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decisions will guarantee that all schools and libraries will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our libraries and importantly, the plan will also bring services directly to the schools. Your inclusion of internal connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

These discounts will enable us to 'level the playing field' for the information 'have-nots' within our community. Without this opportunity, one of the basic tenets of democracy - self-development and education - ceases to exist as the costs become prohibitive.

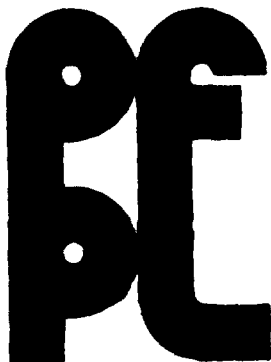
Our community of learners needs deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard A. Hulsey
Director
Willard Public Library



Park Forest Public Library
400 Lakewood Park Forest, Illinois 60466
(708) 748-3731

Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW - Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL RECEIVED

APR 18 10 12 AM '97

April 9, 1997
MAY 6 1997

JAMES H. QUELLO

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Re: CC Docket 96-45 - Universal Service to Libraries and Schools

Dear Commissioner Quello:

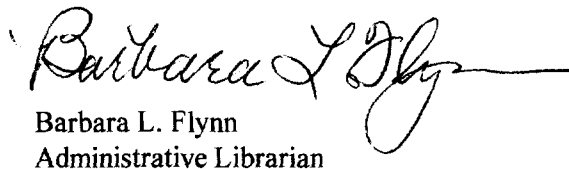
I am writing in strong support of the meaningful discounts for libraries and schools as envisioned by the Federal-State Joint Board in their Recommended Rules published last November.

The Recommended Rules allow libraries and schools significant discounts for the telecommunications and critical, non-telecommunications services necessary to assure that all of our public libraries and schools are connected to the Internet and other on-line resources that are critical to live, learn and work in an increasingly information-driven world.

Congress passed the Telecommunications Act of 1996 with the clear intent of insuring that libraries and schools would be able to access the latest technology. By allowing significant discounts on telecommunications services, local wiring and Internet access, the Joint Board has accurately recognized the needs of poorer schools and libraries that cannot afford the internal wiring necessary to connect with the Internet. By allowing telecommunications companies and non-telco carriers to compete for the discounts, the Joint Board has also recognized the need for diverse technologies to serve the diverse urban and rural areas of the State.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter for our libraries and schools – and – ultimately for us all, as a better educated community benefits everyone.

Yours truly,


Barbara L. Flynn
Administrative Librarian

BLF:ct

OCEAN CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
OCEAN CITY, NEW JERSEY 08226

DONALD E. DEARBORN, Ed.D., SUPERINTENDENT

801 ASBURY AVENUE

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

APR 18 10 13 AM '97

JAMES H. QUELLO

TELEPHONE: 609-399-5150

MAY 6 1997

April 15, 1997

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

SUNSHINE PERIOD

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

As Superintendent of the Ocean City Public Schools, I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow. The discounts will allow our district to utilize our funds for further expansion of technology to every student.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Donald E. Dearborn, Ed.D.
Superintendent

DED/lrb



96-45
DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL
Department of Education and Cultural Affairs

April 15, 1997

James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW, Room 802
Washington, DC 20554

RE: "E-rate" for Schools

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am writing to convey my support for the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan which you will soon vote on. I represent the public schools and libraries of South Dakota, mostly small and rural. It is absolutely essential that our students and citizens have affordable access to global telecommunications. Indeed, the economic future of our state **DEPENDS** on it!

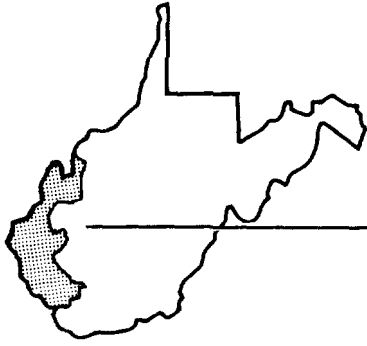
At the urging of our Governor, William J. Janklow, South Dakota is wiring its schools for advanced telecommunications. The state legislature has appropriated tax dollars to purchase supplies; teams of prison inmates have been trained to provide the labor for both the cabling and electrical upgrading! The ability to apply discounts to ongoing connection charges will be a key factor in fully utilizing the telecommunications capacity they will soon have!

Your commission has an opportunity to make a tremendous impact on student learning, right down to the classroom level. I believe the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan have the potential to open up almost unlimited opportunities for learners. Telecommunications certainly increases the likelihood that students will achieve higher academic standards, AND at the same time, will provide resources which are essential for long-term economic growth and development. "Affordable" telecommunications rates for schools and libraries are the KEY to access--students, educators, parents and community members will all benefit from increased information and resources. Small rural states such as South Dakota will realize huge benefits from equalized and discounted rates for schools and libraries.

I urge you, Commissioner Quello, to create truly affordable rates for telecommunications services for schools and libraries this year, and to ensure that internal classroom connections are included within the discounted services.

Sincerely,

Karon L. Schaack
Secretary



DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL
96-45
Regional Education Service Agency

2001 McCoy Road, Huntington, WV 25701
Telephone: (304) 529-6205 Fax: (304) 529-6209

Ted L. Triplett, Executive Director

SUNSHINE PERIOD
April 16, 1997

MAY 6 1997

APR 16 10 15 AM '97

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt:

Although West Virginia has less financial resources than most other states, the State Board of Education, the West Virginia Legislature, county boards of education, regional educational service agencies, and schools have made extraordinary efforts to keep our schools abreast of the rest of the nation in educational technology. In order for us to continue to improve opportunities for our children, it is imperative that the Federal Communications Commission approve the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan for universal service for schools.

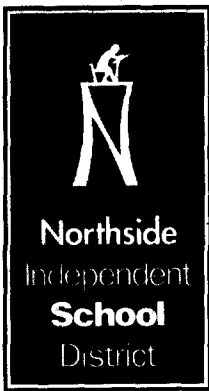
It is particularly important that schools and school districts receive the proposed deep discounts for internal classroom wiring and connections. Without proper internal wiring, the needed services will not get to the classroom where they will be most effective. It is also important that local control of telecommunication plans be included in the final guidelines since this will provide schools an opportunity to develop plans which will best meet the unique needs of individual schools.

Thank you for your consideration of these requests. Students and teachers of southwestern West Virginia are looking forward to quickly taking advantage of the quality educational experiences which will be made possible by the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the FCC regulations which will soon be approved.

Sincerely,

Ted L. Triplett
Executive Director
RESA II

TLT/rmb



Ed Rawlinson
Superintendent

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

SUNSHINE PERIOD

APR 18 10 15 AM '97

JAMES H. QUELLO

MAY 6 1997

April 14, 1997

The Honorable James Quello
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 802
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Commissioner Quello:

As superintendent of Northside Independent School District, the seventh largest public school system in Texas, I would like to thank you for your vigilance in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

As written, the Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools and, most importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of discounts for internal classroom connections is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Northside ISD's Strategic Plan for Technology directs that all 2600+ classrooms in this sprawling, rapidly-growing, suburban-urban school system be connected to the Internet within the next few years. With an aggressive plan that calls for a minimum of five student computers and one multi-media computer teacher workstation per classroom, the successful connection through the school district's Wide Area Network to the world's information resources will depend on affordable telecommunications rates. This school system is committed to providing enhanced learning opportunities to our 60,000 students and 7,500 employees through the use of technology.

We need substantial and meaningful discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you to support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Sincerely,

Ed Rawlinson
Superintendent

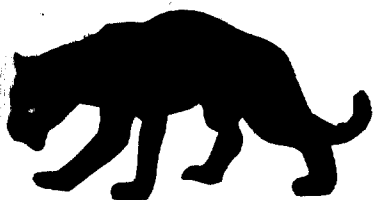
5900 Evers Road

San Antonio

Texas 78238

Tel: 210.706.8770

Fax: 210.706.8772



990 East 700 South
Clearfield, Utah 84015
(801) 774 - 7417

96-45
South Clearfield Elementary School
DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL **Panthers**

SUNSHINE PERIOD

MAY 6 1997

Dick C. Close
Principal

April 2, 1997

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. NW, Room 802
Washington, D.C., 20054

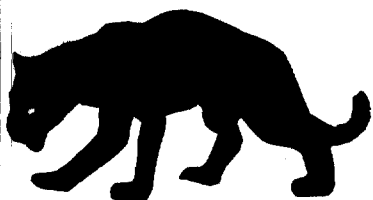
REC'D
APR 18 10 13 AM '97
JAMES H. QUELLO

Dear Commissioner Quello,

As public school teachers, we write in support of meaningful discounts on telecommunications services for schools and libraries so that every school child and life-long learner can have access to the world of information technology. The Telecommunications Act--through its Universal Service Fund provisions--mandates the development of special discount rates for all schools and libraries so that they can secure services at affordable prices.

Educators know that advanced telecommunications services are important to improving learning, sparking the imagination and leveling the playing field for all of our nation's children. Affordable access to technology in all classrooms and libraries will assure that our children and life-long learners can connect with the technology they would need to compete in today's and tomorrow's workforce. Advanced telecommunications services in the classroom will also create informed and skilled consumers of new technology well into the 21st century.

Last November, the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service sent to the FCC a set of recommendations for implementing the Universal Service Fund provisions related to schools and libraries. These recommendations would give our learning institutions significant discounts on all services that are commercially available, with deeper discounts for those schools and libraries least able to pay and more expensive to service. All schools would get discounts on connections to classrooms and Internet connectivity, both of which are essential to providing the most advanced learning opportunities to the greatest number of students.



South Clearfield Elementary School Panthers

990 East 700 South
Clearfield, Utah 84015
(801) 774 - 7417

Dick C. Close
Principal

We urge your support for the Joint Board's recommendations. Taken as a whole, they will provide affordable discounts for a full range of services, and give schools and libraries flexibility in choosing the services needed to meet each community's diverse needs. Most importantly, these provisions, if adopted by the FCC, will make advanced technology for learning available to all Americans.

Thank You,

Undersigned Faculty and Staff Members

South Clearfield Elementary
(Name of school)

Davis County School District, Utah

Linda Bakker	Jara Giller
Zyette Van Dyke	Lisa Story
David W. Baker	Janna Giller
Michelle Jennings	Tronnie Tugman
Doreen Cox	Debbie Williams
Gloria Westover	Dick C. Close
Anna Pollard	Linda L. Bingham
Mildred W. Bates	Chadayne Stunt
Heather Dalton	Steph Nippes
Sallie Davidson	Angarette McNeely
Kathleen Bunker	Wendy K. Arave

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RECEIVED

MAY 6 1997

APR 18 10 13 AM '97

JAMES H. QUELLO

SUNSHINE PERIOD

April 14, 1997

The Honorable James H. Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington DC 20554

Re: CC Docket Number 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am a classroom teacher from Jefferson City, MO, Public Schools, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Dava-Leigh Wilson